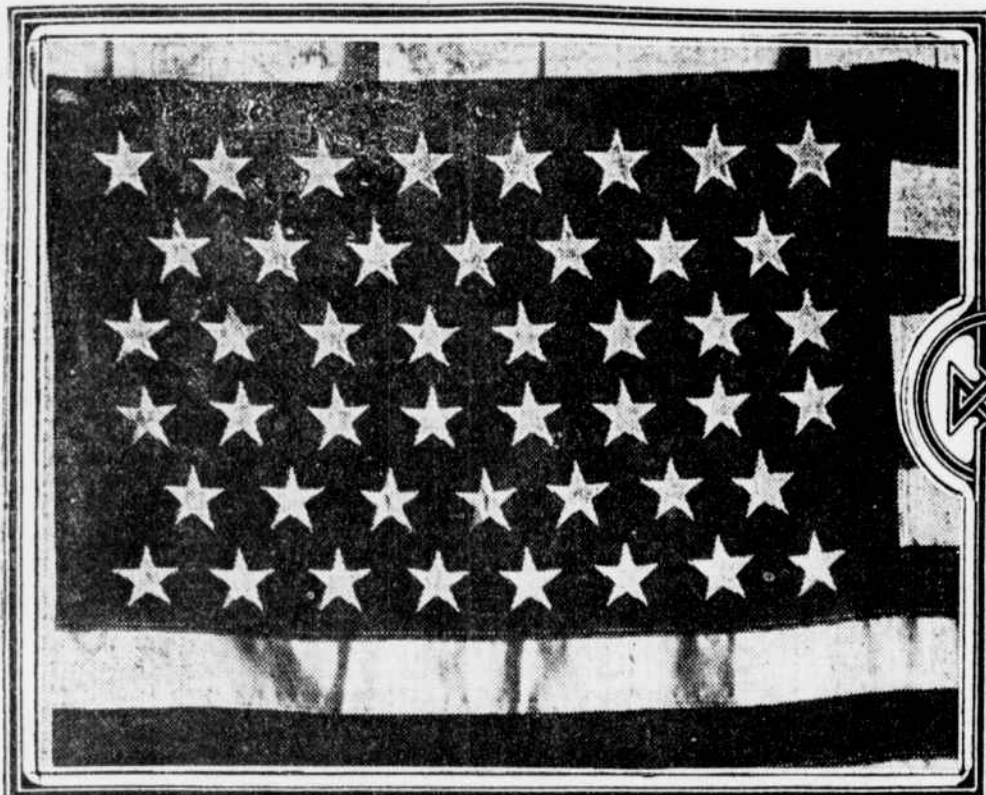
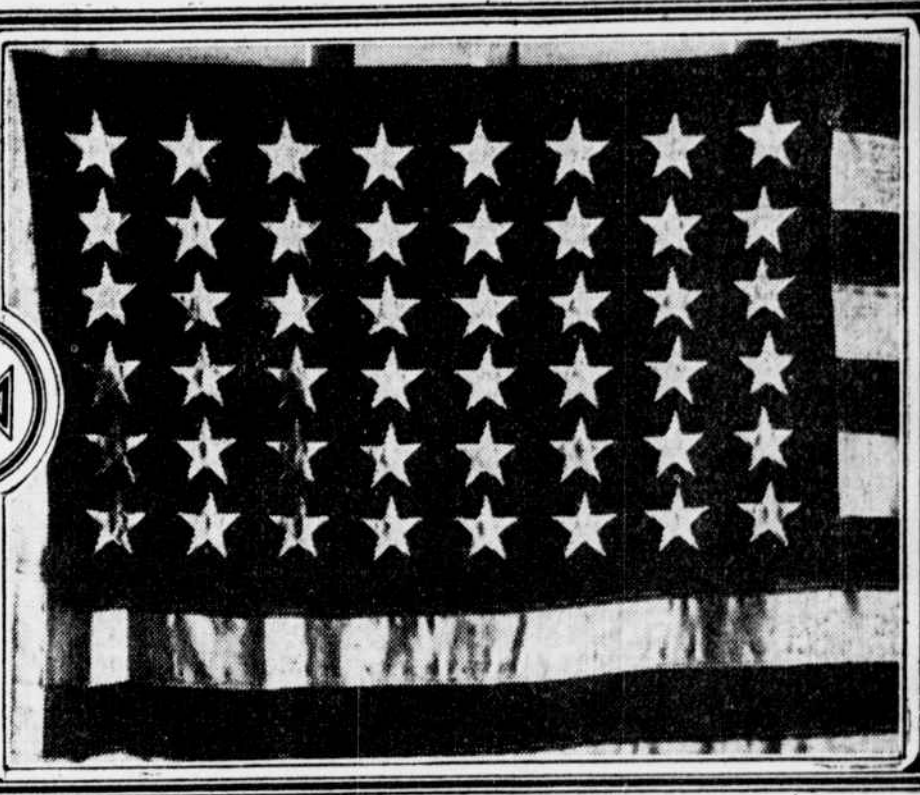
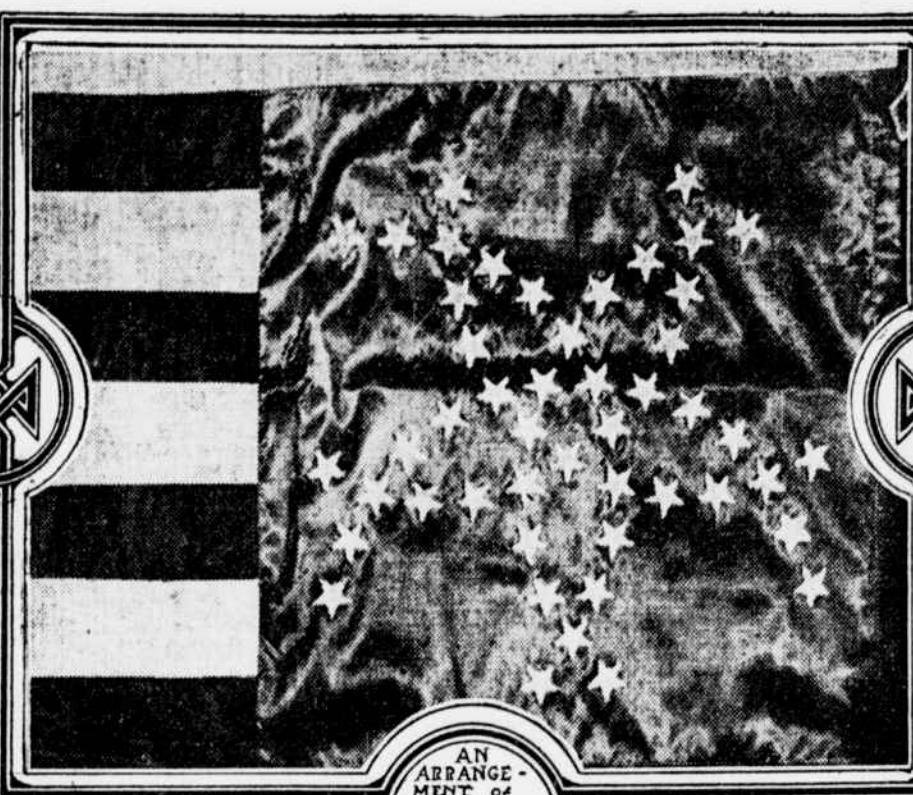


# Two Infant States Will Cause Birth of New American Flag Next Thursday



The "Union" of 46 Stars in the Flag Which Dies on July 4.



The "Union" of the Flag That is to be Born July 4.

## Admission of Arizona and New Mexico Makes Necessary a Rearrangement of Stars on the Banner Which Will Become Official on the Approaching Independence Day.

THE nation's Stars and Stripes will be rearranged and born anew on the Fourth of July. The United States will upon that day throw out the breeze as its official flag the world around a banner that has never been seen before. The occasion for this is the admission of two new states, Arizona and New Mexico, into the Union. This necessitated the addition of two new stars to the flag, and so it became necessary to make over the old banner in accordance with the enlarged Union.

As the nation was born on the Fourth of July, so has it become the custom to make that date the birthday of the new flag. Whenever, during the last century, a state had been admitted into the Union, a new flag, with the rearrangement of stars, has been born on the Fourth of July that followed. The flag that has been official since July 4, 1907, following the admission of Oklahoma, will on July Fourth be out of date. Instead of that banner, with its forty-six stars, arranged in seven rows, there will appear the new flag, with its block of stars in six lines of eight stars each.

Authorities aboard all the ships of the nation, at every army post at which Uncle Sam is in authority, at every government building which flies the Stars and Stripes, at American legations and consulates the world around, those in charge of the flags have been busy these last few weeks pulling down the old banners, ripping off the two short rows of stars and so rearranging them that the proper flag may be down at the masthead. At the Brooklyn navy yard alone 66,000 stars have been ripped off, rearranged and sewed back on. In the thirty-nine states of the Union where it is required that the public schools should fly the federal emblem it is necessary that 250,000 flags should be remodelled or replaced with new ones. In most of these flags the white stars are merely sewed on to the blue ground and may be ripped off, the necessary additions made and again sewed on. So it is unnecessary to make new flags to take the places of the old ones, for the stars in the two short lines may be arranged to make those flags officially correct.

### PROPER FLAG PROPORTIONS.

In the light of this change the news with relation to Old Glory is interesting. Strange to say, neither Congress nor the President through executive order has ever said just what the proportions of the flag should be. The various departments have never come to an agreement on this point, and as a result each department, when it lets its contracts, stipulates the proportions it wants in its flag. The Navy Department, for instance, makes its standard banner 19 feet wide and 13 feet long. All the other flags are made in the same proportions. The War Department uses a similar flag, the post flag, but the proportions are different. This banner is 10 feet wide by 20 feet long, and the other flags of the army are nearly all made in that proportion. The garrison flag, the biggest banner of the War Department, is 20 feet wide by 38 feet long. Strangely, there has never been any authoritative ruling on what the proportions of the flag should be. This irregularity does not exist in the flag of any other nation. The British, in ordering flags, merely give their length in yards, it being understood that the width is half the length, and those proportions are always the same.

The union—that is to say, the portion of the flag containing the stars—is two-fifths of the length of the navy flags and one-third the length of the army flags, thereby furnishing another example of a lack of uniformity. In the grouping of the stars, however, there is always uniformity. The President appoints a commission whenever a new state is admitted to decide what shall be the official grouping of the stars. When there were forty-five states there were six lines of stars, three of eight and three of seven, the different lengths alternating. When Oklahoma was admitted four lines of stars became long and two short. In the new flag, which has just been arranged by a special commission appointed for the purpose, there is the solid block.

The general supply committee for all the departments has protested against the varying proportions of the flags and a commission has been appointed to bring about uniformity and has made a report to the President, but that report has not yet been acted upon.

### A NEW FLAG PROPOSED.

There is now pending before Congress a bill introduced by Mr. Ansberry, of Ohio, which proposes an entirely new arrangement of the stars. This arrangement fixes the stars in five arcs as shown in the accompanying illustration. Whenever new states are admitted these arcs may be extended by placing new stars at the ends. In urging this arrangement Mr. Ansberry cites the fact that, with the addition of the next state, the new solid field will be again broken up. This would probably necessitate an arrangement in seven lines of seven stars each, making up the necessary forty-nine. The admission of the fiftieth state would break up this combination and an entire rearrangement would again be necessary.

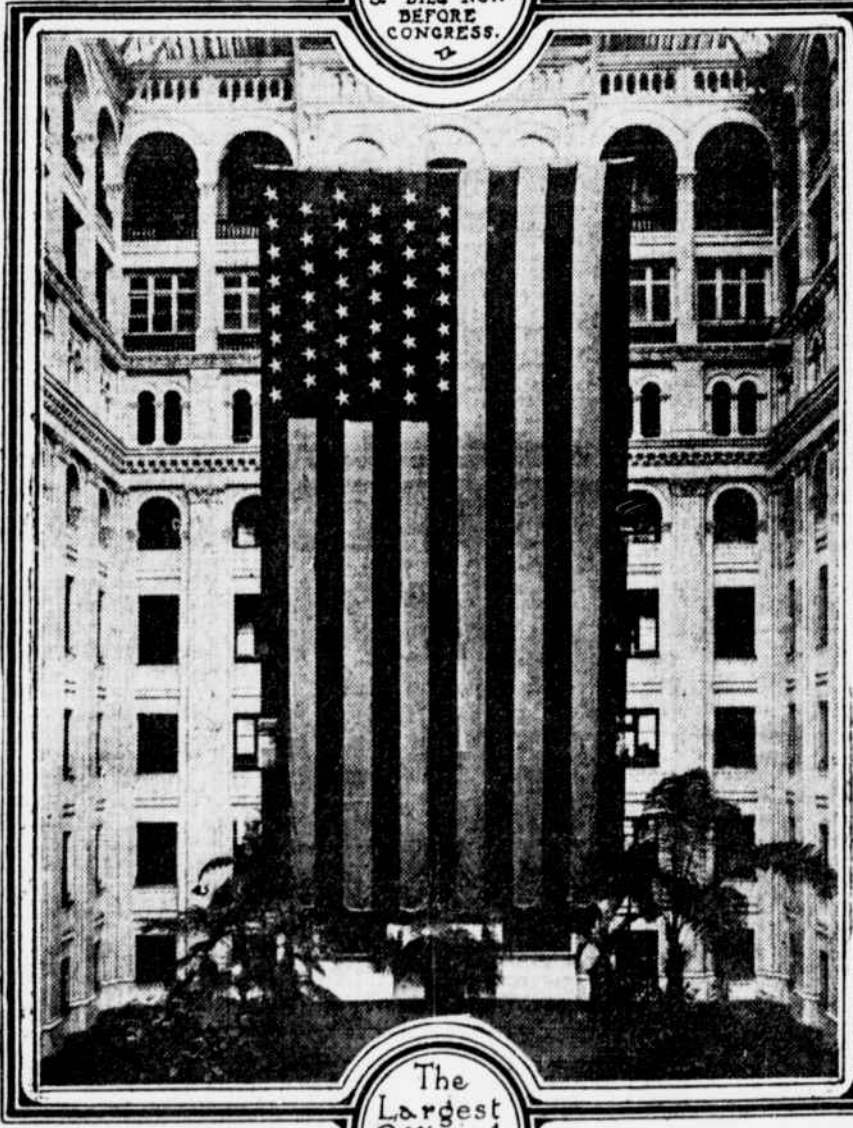
The great majority of the official flags that the people of the nation see are made at a modest little shop around the corner from the Postoffice Department in Washington. The flags that fly over all of Uncle Sam's postoffices, federal courts,

custom houses, department buildings, embassies, consulates and whatever other government offices aside from the military, come from this small shop in a Washington side street which is presided over by a venerable flag maker by the name of Copeland.

It was from this small shop that the largest official flag that was ever made came. This flag hangs in the Postoffice Department at Washington. This great building is constructed about a hollow square, at the bottom of which is the glass-roofed floor space where mail is handled. Above this areway rise nine stories of masonry, inclosing the hollow square. In the middle of this hangs the great flag, reaching nearly the height and width of it. It is solitary and alone, with only the masonry as a background. It is hung so impressively that people come far to see it and the idle passerby is often brought to attention and stands in unconscious admiration.

This flag is 70 feet long and 36 feet 8 inches wide. The stars are more than a foot in diameter. It required four hundred yards of bunting to construct it. It is the only flag of its kind and size that was ever made.

Ever since Americans learned to love the Stars and Stripes there has been controversy as to the origin and subsequent history of the flag. The War Department has



The Largest Official Flag Ever Made.



Painting of Perry on Lake Erie Which Hangs in the Capitol. Perry's Flag Had Fifteen Stripes. But the Artist Shows Thirteen.

recently sought to settle all the moot questions by selecting a specially fitted individual, having him ferret out the facts and publish the sketch of the flag's history under the authority of the department. This expert on flag history is Charles Ebert, a one-armed veteran of the Civil War. In his sketch Ebert says:

"The American Congress, in session at Philadelphia, Pa., established by its resolution of June 14, 1777, a national flag for the United States of America.

"The resolution was as follows: 'Resolved, That the flag of the thirteen United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation.'

"Although nearly a year previously, July 4, 1776, these thirteen United States had been declared independent, this resolution is the first legislative action recorded relating to a national flag for the new sovereignty.

"The use of the thirteen stripes was not a new feature, as they had been introduced on alternate white and blue on the upper left-hand corner of a standard presented to the Philadelphia Light Horse by its captain in the early part of 1776, and moreover the union flag of the thirteen United Colonies raised at Washington's headquarters, at Cambridge, January 2, 1776, had the thirteen stripes just as they are this day; but it also had the crosses



Placing the Stars on a Flag.

## If Pending Measure Is Enacted by Congress the Stars Will Be Fixed in Five Arcs—Uncle Sam's Largest Banner Is Seventy Feet Long and Hangs in Post-Office Department.

of St. George and St. Andrew on a blue ground in the corner.

"There is no satisfactory evidence, however, that any flag bearing the union of the stars had been in public use before the resolution of June, 1777.

"It is claimed that a Mrs. John Ross, an upholsterer, who resided on Arch street, Philadelphia, was the maker of the first flag combining the stars and stripes. Her descendants assert that a committee of Congress, accompanied by General Washington, who was in Philadelphia in June, 1776, called upon Mrs. Ross and engaged her to make a flag from a rough drawing, which, at her suggestion, was redrawn by General Washington with a pencil in her back parlor, and the flag thus designed was adopted by Congress.

"Although the resolution establishing the flag was not officially promulgated by the Secretary of Congress until September 3, 1777, it seems well authenticated that the Stars and Stripes was carried at the battle of Brandywine, September 11, 1777, and thenceforward during all the battles of the Revolution.

"Soon after its adoption the new flag was hoisted on the naval vessels of the United States.

"The ship Ranger, bearing the Stars and Stripes and commanded by Captain Paul Jones, arrived at a French port about December 1, 1777, and her flag received on

of proportion to its length, unless the stripes were narrowed, and this would have impaired their distinctness when seen from a distance.

"A newspaper of the time said: 'By this regulation the thirteen stripes will represent the number of states whose valor and resources originally effected American independence, and the additional stars will mark the increase of the states since the present Constitution.'

### ERRORS IN THE FLAG.

"No act has since been passed by Congress altering this feature of the flag, and it is the same as originally adopted except as to the number of stars in its union.

"In the war with Mexico the national flag bore twenty-nine stars in its union; during the late Civil War thirty-five, and since July 4, 1907, forty-six stars.

"In none of the acts of Congress relating to the flag has the manner of arranging the stars been prescribed, and in consequence there has been a lack of uniformity in the matter, and flags in use by the public in general may be seen with the stars arranged in various ways.

"The early custom was to insert the stars in parallel rows across the blue field, and this custom has, it is believed, been observed in the navy, at least since 1818, at which time the President ordered the stars to be arranged in such manner on the national flag used in the navy.

"In the army, too, it is believed, the stars have always been arranged in horizontal rows across the blue field, but not always in vertical rows, the effect, however, being about the same as in the naval flag.

"Hereafter there will be no difference in the arrangement of the stars between the army and navy, as an agreement has been arrived at between the War and Navy departments on the subject."

An absence of reliable knowledge with relation to the flag has caused many ludicrous mistakes to be made. In the Capitol Building at Washington is a picture by the artist Leutze, who was a friend of Lincoln and whose son, Commander Leutze, is now in charge of the Brooklyn navy yard. This painting is of Washington crossing the Delaware. Historically it will be remembered that this event took place on Christmas night, 1776. The resolution establishing the Stars and Stripes as the national flag was not passed until June 14, 1777. The crosses of St. George and St. Andrew were in the corner of Washington's flag when he crossed the Delaware. In this painting, however, Washington is represented as bearing the Stars and Stripes across the ice-bound stream.

Another famous painting that hangs in the Capitol is that of Perry fighting his famous battle of Lake Erie. The flag shown in this picture has the regular thirteen stripes. As a matter of fact, the American flag of 1815, which is the date of the battle, had fifteen stripes. So is the national emblem incorrectly done in two of the great paintings that hang in the national Capitol itself.

### MADE OF BUNTING.

The impression is abroad that the official banners are silk. No poet ever wrote of other than silken folds in his nation's emblem. Yet there are almost no silken flags. Neither are they cotton, as might be guessed upon a second chance. As a matter of fact, they are made of bunting, "all wool and a yard wide," and valued at 23 cents per yard, regardless of bargain day. The white of them makes flannel trousers of a high order and great lasting quality. The blue of them would make the best so of outing shirt. But it would make no rug as a petticoat, for it is the material of the plain people.

There is good reason for the use of flannel in the flags. A flag made of cotton would flap over and stick to itself when it rained, as would one of silk. Elth would be little more than a stink in weather, and it would be as sensible to make a bathing suit of these materials as a flag. But a flag of wool will still unfold itself when drenched with rain. It will itself to pieces less readily than do other materials, soils less and is generally utilitarian and economical. It has demonstrated its superiority on many battlefields. To be sure, the regimental flag for parade occasions is silken and greatly tasselled, but this is for show alone and so greatly in the manner of a costume that it is not worth mentioning. All the others are wool.

The bunting of the flags is bought by the government in great quantities direct from the factories. It comes not ready striped but with the colors in separate rolls. This is the form in which the contractor receives it. In the shop it is cut into strips of the body of the flags and a rectangle of blue is cut out as a field for the stars. These stars are cut by machine from a white bunting. Then girls begin stitching together the sixty pieces that go into making of a single official flag. Seams a double sewed to resist the winds, and the ends which flap are protected by a mu reinforced hem. There is nothing very complicated about the whole process of manufacture. The flag thus made of separate strips unravels much less rapidly than does one of the whole cloth, and consequently lasts much longer. The manufacture of flags is largely a question of sewing machines and girls for the plain ones, but great varieties require much knowledge and skill in cutting, and on the better flags embroidery work is labor for an artist. The making of the flags for the navy.

Continued on seventh page.

February 14, 1778, the first salute ever paid to the American flag by foreign naval vessels.

"The flag of the United States remained unchanged for about eighteen years after its adoption. By this time two more states (Vermont and Kentucky) had been admitted into the Union, and on January 13, 1794, Congress enacted:

"That from and after the first day of May, 1795, the flag of the United States be fifteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be fifteen stars, white, in a blue field."

"This flag was the national banner from 1795 to 1818, during which period occurred the War of 1812 with Great Britain.

"By 1818 five additional states (Tennessee, Ohio, Louisiana, Indiana and Mississippi) had been admitted into the Union, and therefore a further change in the flag seemed to be required.

"After considerable discussion in Congress on the subject, the act of April 4, 1818, was passed, which provided—

"First—That from and after the 4th day of July next the flag of the United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union have twenty stars, white in a blue field.

"Second—That on the admission of every new state into the Union one star be added to the union of the flag, and that such addition shall take effect on the 4th of July next succeeding such admission."

"The return to the thirteen stripes of the 1777 flag was due, in a measure, to a reverence for the standard of the Revolution, but it was also due to the fact that a further increase of the number of stripes would have made the width of the flag out